

February 14, 2007
Cross Roads Senior Citizen Center

Lynn: I believe I will start by telling you how I happen to live in this area. My folks when they were small kids and polygamy was outlawed, moved my two grandmothers, one on each side, to Deep Creek, Utah. That is north of Lapoint about twenty miles. My grandpa had two wives he brought out there and left with about six kids and I tell everyone that he came out there with two wives, six snot-nosed kids and a jersey cow and a sway-back horse and left them and went back to Salt Lake. My Grandmother Harrison didn't talk much. That is where my parents met. They lived north of Lapoint. My mother and dad married. I am the ninth of nine children. I was born 3 Nov 1924. When the reservation was thrown open for homesteading. My parents drew out a homestead. It was up on the Indian Bench. It wasn't very good for farming because of the cobble rock. They were able to trade that homestead for another one which is down in Ballard, south one mile. It was just the opposite, so sandy on that little hill that they couldn't irrigate. The water would wash out. Dad got a chance to buy a farm up on Highway 40 just about a block west of the Ballard School House. We had a 120 acres there. That is where I was born along with my brother, Kenneth and sister Essie. All the rest of the children were born at the other homes. When I got old enough, I went to Ballard to school eight years. We didn't have any running water in the school. The outdoor privy was down about 500 yards to the north end of the school house. The school had four big rooms with four big pot bellied stoves and there was two grades in each room. I was two years in each room. I graduated from there when I was thirteen or fourteen. I then went to Alterra High School. I went four years there. I was quite active in all of the sports. I used to tell my kids and they didn't believe me, I was the best up there. There were only about twenty boys up there. The whole student body wasn't over one hundred and some.

Ellen: Did you have a favorite teacher?

Lynn: I had a favorite teacher down in Ballard, the other school too. My favorite in grade school was Thorar Larsen. He was the principal and I had him in seventh and part of eighth grade. He went to work for the government in soil conservation or something. He taught me more in that year and a half than I had learned the six and a half years before. He was the kind that you either learned or he found out why [you were not learning]. He had a board of education he could use on you. He didn't spare it. He would have you stoop over and grab your ankles. He would go to work on you. The board had holes in it. He didn't know what one swat was. He was the best teacher I believe I ever had. I had similar situation up in Alterra. Luke Clegg was the principal. I didn't ever have him until my senior year. I thought he might move before I had to take his class. I came to be senior and he had two of the classes that I had to take to graduate. It was the same thing with him. When you were in his room you learned. I do appreciate him now much more that I did then.

Ellen: Don Davis told me that you were the Chief of Police at the Alterra High School.

Lynn: When Don and I were Juniors. Don is from Lapoint. He has a glass eye. He lost it in a BB

gun fight, I believe. I was Chief of Police and Don was my deputy. One day, I and two other guys decided to go to Roosevelt without excuses. All three of us got a Butch haircut, so it was pretty obvious that we'd gone together. The next day we were called into the principals room, Luke Clegg. He asked us why we went. We told him we thought we would like to. He relieved me of being the Chief of Police. He put Don in. Don wanted me to be his deputy. Luke said that would not be right so that didn't happen.

Ellen: Don also said that you enjoyed spending your time in the car with the girls.

Lynn: I tell you that I was pretty near a grade A student for quite a time. What changed me from that to an average C. I found out the difference between boys and girls when I got to be a sophomore in high school. I spent more time with the girls than I did with the books. I went with the same girl about five years. Probably I will never forget her. I played every athletic thing that there was. I had an Indian friend that was a real good athlete. When we played ball, he was pitch and I was catch. When we played football, he was quarterback and I right end. When we played basketball, I was guard and he was forward. He was killed in Normandy. I also went the eight years in Ballard with him.

Ellen: What was his name?

Lynn: Nelson Conecuts. He was a very good artist and good penman. He was good at anything. I really hated to lose him.

Ellen: Did you ever wrestle?

Lynn: Yes, but I boxed. I wrestled one time when Vernal came over. We got more points if we had a weight in each class. I was a boxer but I told them I would wrestle. I had never wrestled. I had brawled. I wrestled a Walker kid that stood about a foot above me. On the first round he had my head turned so I was looking backwards. Orvil Hullinger, who was a professional wrestler, come up and sat in the corner. He explained two holds to me. I went out the next round and threw him down and pinned him. I really was a boxer, that was my specialty.

Ellen: Could you play more than one sport during the season.

Lynn: No. Alterra was almost 100% based in students. They could not stay after. They had to go home on the bus. That is the reason we were the best basketball team in the Uinta Basin. We hardly won a game but anyway we had a lot of fun. I was also in the school band. We were the best band. We were the best band in Uintah and Duchesne Counties. It was a marching band. I played the snare drum, which I liked. We had a lot of fun. We had wonderful uniforms. We went to Odgen and Grand Junction and got a One A in both places in marching and concert play. We really were good. The teacher was Ace McKennan. He was Dr. Jeckle and Mr. Hyde. He was very calm and collected all the time. When it came time to really hit it and get ready for a contest, boy, he would not let you make any noise. He was on your back so stout. The minute that was over, he was a different character. It took that to get what he wanted. When I was sixteen, my dad gave me a Model A Coup with one seat and a rumble seat. Like Don Davis told

in his history, the girls kind of liked to ride in that and I kind of enjoyed having them ride. I spent quite a few days riding around in the Model A. I should probably tell you that this is the main reason that I finished school and going in instead of the Army when I was a junior. I was elected Student body President for 1942-43 year of school. That is a good thing to have on a resume.

Ellen: Was your family active in church or civic activity?

Lynn: My dad was county commissioner in Uintah County for at least six terms, maybe more. He represented the western half of Uintah County, which you have to have a strong mind and strong will to get anything out of the east side of Uintah County for the west. Everybody knew that when Ray stepped up for the west he would get his share up. He got the roads fixed and stuff like that. Both my mother and my father were active in the LDS church. They held different positions. My dad went on a mission to Oregon when I was a junior in high school. In them days a married man could just be gone six months if need be. He was gone just six months. My dad only went to the third grade in school.

Ellen: How did you feel about your dad being gone?

Lynn: Well, I didn't have a choice. When my dad said something, you didn't ask why or what. He was very strict. When he said something, he wanted it done. God bless him for it. Later on in life in 1943 in May I graduated from high school. In June, I was in Texas in the Army at Camp Walters, Infantry Basic. I and my nephew, Lloyd, signed up for immediate induction. They said we could stay together. I never slept in the same barracks or never saw him for three years after that. I decided they didn't mean it or they were liars. He stayed and became a fighter plane pilot. He had two and a half years of college and graduated and was just picking up the P-51 in Florida to fly to Europe when the war ended in Europe. I went over seas to the South Pacific. They told us when we got on the ship that us old boys goin' over seas would be the first out when the war is over. Well my nephew only beat me out six months and never left the United States, so they lied again, but that is not uncommon. When I left San Francisco for over seas, I went to New Caledonia and joined the 25th Infantry Division and trained with them. They had fought in Guadalcanal and was really shot up. There was a lot of new recruits like me. I was put in the heavy machine gunner. I hadn't even seen one, let alone, fired it. The first day that I was to go out and practice a captain sent his sergeant over to get me off the firing line. Sergeant said that the captain wanted to see me. I thought what the hell have I done now. I went over and reported to him. He said that he was captain over the reconnaissance troop for the 25th Division. The general of the division had given him permission to go through the orders and pick out the guys he wanted. It appeared that I was one that he was looking for. It was strictly volunteer. If I wanted to go I could, if I didn't want to go I didn't have to. He said, "I'll tell you what Labrum, if you will come up there for thirty days and you don't like us you can come right back. Also, if I don't like you in thirty days your butt will be right back here." I took him up on it and I really believe he saved my life by getting me out of that machine gun position. I ended up being the Motor Sergeant of the Mechanized Infantry Reconnaissance Troop. I started out as the light machine gunner there and they mechanized us and my records showed that I had a lot to do with automobiles so they put me a driver to the lieutenant. When they got mechanized, they needed another mechanic so I was put mechanic. Six or eight months before I come home, I was made

motor sergeant over five mechanics. I was the youngest of the bunch and had never went to army mechanic school. I just knew more about it. It was just farm sense, I guess. That is how I ended up in the army. To go to New Caledonia from San Francisco in a troop ship, there was 10,000 soldiers on that ship. It was a converted Italian Luxury Liner. It zig-zaged and never went in a straight line. We were thirty days from San Francisco to New Caledonia. I believe I was scared to death every hour. We had no escorts. I never got sea-sick. I believe I was the only one that didn't. There was vomit up and down the aisles. We slept six deep and there wasn't two feet between us, either on the sides or above us or below us. My division was the first army division that relieved the marines at Guadalcanal. I wasn't in on Guadalcanal. I was at New Caledonia, from there I was shipped out with vehicles, I and another mechanic. We were the only ones on a Army ship that carried only vehicles. We didn't know where we was going. We ended up in Lea, New Guinea with our ships. At the end of 1944 the convoy formed up there. There was ships as far as you could see to go invade Luzon in the Phillippines. We were in on that. It took us, from Lea to Luzon, about two weeks in a convoy. We had all kinds of ship, destroyers protecting us. We did get them suicide bombers attack us. We called them "Go to hell pilots" because they were suicide. They believed they were going straight to heaven for Tojo. When we got to Lingayen Gulf, that is where we started to liberate it. The other mechanic and I had to have every vehicle started and running when we loaded them on a barge to send them ashore. That was our job. They had to move them off real fast. We fought clear across Luzon. We hold the record of the longest division that was ever committed to combat duty continually without a break. It was 164 days long. We got pret near Cabanatuan, the prison where them guys that marched was held, then McArthur had us step aside and him and his seventh calvary come in and got their pictures taken. After the Luzon, we were relieved, after Europe surrendered, from combat. We were put in R&R camp to regroup and get new equipment for the invasion of Japan. Our division had already been assigned the area where we were going to invade on. They give us new type of equipment, like M-8's, which is wheel tanks without turrets instead of half-tracks because the roads are so much better in Japan. That was one of the things that I remember. When Truman dropped the atomic bomb on Japan, we were practically ready to load up to go invade it. They can say what they want about Truman and the bomb but without him I probably would be over in Japan pushing up posies. He had guts. He was the smartest president we have ever had. I think a lot of people had him pegged as the dumbest. He saved millions of Americans. When we did ship to Japan from Luzon, I was shipped to Nagoya, Japan. We were the occupation forces there, we were such a small group and the reconnaissance troop is only one hundred and fifty of us. They made us MP's for Nagoya. It was a big city that was mostly bombed out. I ended up as an MP, imagine that. I was in Nagoya about six months. I came home in February of 1946. Most of the guys where already home when I got here. I wondered if they knew that I had even been gone. There were no brass bands, no thank you crowds, there was just your family.

Ellen: Everyone here was working hard to support that war effort.

Lynn: Yah, I was here for two years of it. They even gathered up all the junk iron they could find here in Ballard and piles it up by Ballard school yard. My mother was in charge of that because of the Relief Society part. They gathered it to make bullets out of.

I came home on another troop ship, not quite the same situation. They was sending so many guys home that they was lacking people over there to be in the occupation. They

was going to make some of us from about my point on, wait to be shipped home. This is the best thing that McArthur ever done. He said, "There won't go a ship home with an empty berth." I got put on within twenty-four hours of knowin' I was going. The ship was full. This was probably the best duty I ever had anywhere. On that ship that took us two weeks to get home. The first day I was assigned guard duty, a tech sergeant. I went down, reported in, and I said "No, tech sergeants do draw this kind of duty." They put me in a better sleeping commodity. I was taken off that duty and my name never got put on another roster. I had a bunk in the hospital with sheets and everything. I never told anybody, I just come home. That was the best duty I ever had in the army for comfort. I landed up in Seattle, Washington because we had a berth in San Francisco to land. When we were two days out of Hawaii, someone broke out with Small Pox so they turned us around and we went back to Pearl Harbor. We all got vaccinated. The vaccination never did leave a scare on my arm so I got vaccinated every time I was moved from one place to another cause they didn't think I had been vaccinated. They have to really fester to make a scar. In fact, their the best thing to fight cold sores there is. By having to go back we lost our berth at San Francisco. We had to go up going to Seattle, to Olympia Washington to disembark. We went to Camp Lewis and then shipped out on trains within a week for Ft. Douglas. We got to Ft Douglas in a day or two. That is where I was discharged from. They were going to keep me over a day or two because my blood pressure was high and that is what kept me out of the Air Corp., by the way. I passed all the exams but I couldn't pass the blood pressure and it was the last part of the physical. I went to the 25th Infantry. They was going to me keep in at Ft. Douglas till they found out what the blood pressure was all doin'. I had had that for thirty months and it hadn't got any worse or hadn't killed me or anything, so I talked the corporal into markin' it down a little when he was taking it and got out. That was foolish also, I could have got a partial disability retirement out of it. When you're smart, just think of it sometimes. My first check in the army was \$21.00 and right shortly we got a raise. There is one thing back in basic training when I graduated that, that was training at Camp Walters, I had a kid from Denver who was picked to stay on as cadre, that is kind of substitute school teachers for corporals and sergeants from the new recruits comin' in. They said they would give us corporal strips. Then we found out they was only going to make us acting ones with a band on our arm and we never got no raise. All we would have been is under the feet of the regulars. So we took a day and went to soldiers club when we should have been in school. The captain called us in. He asked us where we was. We told him. He said, "What's the matter, don't you like us here?" We said, "No, because we were promised corporals and we understand that we are not going to get it." Well he told us we would be on our way pretty quick. Within a week, I was on my way to South Pacific Islands. I could have stayed in Camp Walters another six months, at least. I might say that the memories I've got and what I've done are worth more to me than money, but I sure wouldn't want to do it again. I still have one friend alive, one of the five of us mechanics. He lives down in Alabama. There is another one that was a contractor, building houses and buying real estate. He made millions. I would go back and see him every August. I would get to watch his trotters race. He would come here every October and go deer hunting with me. Those are great memories. My buddies in the Army that I was real close to, when the goin' got thick they never got thin. That's what I liked. When I came home,

it was February, and I had known Miriam, I met her in Ballard in the second grade. I had known her quite a while. When I came home she hadn't married yet and we used to run the same crowd. All the girls figured all us guys was going to get killed so a lot of em' got married the first chance they got. That's no lie. Miriam was nine months older than me. The kids always thought she was smarter. Right off she got pregnant and we had Diana. She is now sixty years old. Two years later we had David. Two or three years later we had Bill and then about four or five years later we had Janie. We had boy and girl, all the sexes we could get, so I kidded Miriam that we would have to try for color. She didn't believe that. Miriam and I were married all the time that I was working. I went to work immediately for my brothers. They owned the Ford agency then. It was called Labrum and Adams. I worked for them out in the station. Within a year, I made a deal with them to rent me run the station. Let me just run it on my own business.

Ellen: Was this a service station?

Lynn: This service station part of the Ford Garage [Dealership] where it is now, on the corner. I run that service station for a year and a half. My nephew that graduated from accounting down in Phoenix had come up to see me. He didn't even have enough money to put spark plugs in his car and it needed them. I had to buy him a set of spark plugs and tune his car up. While he was here, a place in Roosevelt become available to rent. We could start our own business. We rented it and I give my brothers notice that I was quitting. We moved down. This nephew was more like my brother. We were always together in school. He went to Roosevelt and I went to Ballard. We went to the dances and had the same friends. We went in business together. I was more conservative than him and he was more a goer and it was a good combination. We had the service station and a garage down there by the bridge. He done the book work and I done the mechanican. We decided that recappin' would be a good business. We bought recappin' equipment and put it in another part of the building. We recapped tires, it was the first steam formula of recapping in the Uinta Basin. We put on full caps where OK Rubber just put on top caps. Our tires would stick better. We done real well on that. We done that for about four years. The first part of 1955], my brother and brother-in-law was walking from their garage to get to their home. We was still open workin'. They came in and said, "Why don't you guys buy us out?" We told them to stop in the morning and we would tell them. We stayed there quite late that night and talked it all over and all the angles, what we would have to do. We decided if the price was right and Ford would accept us as the franchise, we would buy it. We asked them to give us a price and within a matter of a day or two we told them we would take it provided we could get accepted. We were accepted and moved in to where my boys still run L and L. That is what we named it "L and L Motor" for Lynn and Levere Loyd Labrum. We was all L's. That is how it got its name of L and L.

Ellen: So how many year has it been in business?

Lynn: It has been there some 52 years. In 1965, all partnerships have their problems especially when you get two wives, six or eight kids involved. One morning I told him I was going to buy him out. I wasn't going to sell to him because I furnished the money to buy in the first place. He came back the next morning and give me the price that he wanted for it and I told him I would

take it. In ten years, I gave him for his half as much as we give for the whole thing to start with. We had increased business wise.

Ellen: Did you still have the service station with the recapping?

Lynn: We let the least go and moved everything up to where L and L today. We started that in March of 1955 and I bought Levere out in 1965. I retired in 1974 and turned it over to my boys. I was only fifty-one when I retired. Just a little before that in 1974, on March I got ran into by a snowmobile up by Paradise Park. It done every thing but kill me. It was a Orvil Rudy man that ran into me. Anyhow, it almost took my left arm off and knocked his eye out of the socket. We hit head on and I know I must have been doin' better that fifty. He went down and turned around and come back into eleven of us that was on the same trail. I happened to be the second one just over a little raise when I topped that raise. When I topped that raise he was right there. I don't remember anything about it. We hit so hard that it cracked my helmet from the front of it clear back to the center. I was in LDS hospital for two weeks with a concussion. I don't even remember being there. They say I talked sensible and that, but I can't remember a thing about it. When I come home, my boys knew a lot more about runnin' the business than I did when I started. They both started to work for me, Dave when he got out of college and Bill started two years before Dave did. I figured it was later than I was thinkin'. I better retire and get all the playin' done that I wanted. It was in June or July of 1974, I more or less retired. I would go down about every day and Dave finally said, "Dad, nobody will think I'm boss as long as you come down here." I told him that would be the last unless he called me. I did enjoy the retirement but not as much as you think you are going to. It is hard to work from six to about ten most every night and all at once not have anything to do. I did take on a hobby. I bought a ranch up in Neola, forty acres, with twenty brood cows and enough hay on that forty acres to put to feed them and their calves. I didn't farm, I ranched. I raised enough feed to pay my taxes and feed my kids and myself. That is all I expected to do. It was a good hobby. I also took up trap shooting, clay pigeons is what it's called. I traveled all over the western states trap shootin'. I went back to the national shoot twice in Van Dailey, Ohio. I didn't do any good back there. It was a lot of fun. There was better than 5,000 shooters. When you shoot in a state like Utah, you get to know them all cause you don't shoot with the same guy all the time. I really got shootin' my best maybe six years before Miriam died. It takes along time to get shootin' good for some people. The older you get the longer it takes. I had two nephews that I shot with, this was one of them, my ex-partner and another one. They started about ten years before I did. They were better than me to start with but I got about as good.

Ellen: I see you carried in a Pool Que. Do you play pool here at the center?

Lynn: Yes, that's what I brought it for. I'm not very good. I played more pool last week than I did all my life. I would go in the Commercial Club, well when I wanted to go there I was to young. After I come home out of the army I got married and didn't have no desire to go there.

Ellen: Tell us what you remember about Roosevelt including the business and the downtown strip area.

Lynn: I'll tell you about Roosevelt first. Down to the south end of Roosevelt to the south of LCL Service Station, my brother Morrill owned a tourist park cabin and a Conoco Service Station clear back in 1932. He run that until he built up on the corner where I am at now [L and L Motors]. He built a three corner cobble rock service station. That is still part of that building that is there now. Then you come up town, where the Laundry mat is was called Peppered Seed Company. It bought alfalfa seed because at one time the Uinta Basin raised the best alfalfa seed in the United States. My dad bought and paid for the ranch we lived on here in Ballard, 120 acres, in two years with his alfalfa crop. After that the alfalfa got so it had weevil and crickets till it wouldn't raise it anything. That Peppered Seed is also where the car wash and station is. Then you go across the street, to the north on the east side, that there was a Utah Oil Service Station right, just a little bit south of where the office is and back in to the east, where the Frontier Motel Office is. Up from that was a little lady, Clarence Lambert's wife, that had little log house that done dry cleaning, pressing and mending of clothes. Next to that was Ross's Café, a little hot dog stand. I used to sweep the sidewalk for a hamburger. Hamburger cost a dime there, deluxe is fifteen cents. That was with a tomato and relish. Both of those were torn down, and the Roosevelt Theater is there today. To the north of that was J.C. Penny's. The building there that is a brick building. To the north of that was a IGA Grocery store, Wilkins, where that parking lot is. Them Wilkins boys had all the money that the citizens of Uinta Basin charged and not paid. They could have retired well off. Same way with my brother, Lloyd, and the Conoco business. All of the farmers forgot to pay their gas bills. There wasn't any diesel. We had kerosene. When you go across the street, that was about a fourth of a block bare for years and years. Today it is the Well's Fargo Bank building. Next to that was Lyle Reynold's Barber Shop, where Sylvan was and where the Barber Shop still is. Next to that north is Clair Ashton's building. They had a dry good, hardware, and a grocery.

Ellen: Was that related to the Ashtons from Vernal?

Lynn: They was brothers. There was also a brother in Heber. North of that was my Uncle Clair Labrum. First there was a little building called the Dry Gulch Building. It was where the Dry Gulch bookkeeper worked. I got just one building ahead of that. When I was there was the Rambler Café. Later on it was called Steve and Bill's Café, then Steve and Ned's Café. Now I think Shar Benson has her business there. My uncle Clair had a shoe shop where Shar is. Then there was Gambles store where Shar is. They sold hardware and tools. The Sinclair Station was next to them right on the corner. The next block starts with the Shurtliff Hotel there. She would rent out rooms by the month if they wanted. People could board there. There were more later on but at first it was the only one in town.

Ellen: Was this business that your older brother had, the Conoco Station and the tourist cabins considered a hotel.

Lynn: Let me go back. It was the Conoco Service Station connected with little buildings. They were called tourist park. There were about twelve different rooms for tourists. In the middle of that, they had community showers. There was community restrooms for ladies and gentlemen. You didn't have a bathroom in each room. That was the only tourist park that was in town. That was back in 1932 and he stayed there until 1937. I'm right on Shurtliff Hotel and then there was

three or four houses up to the north corner where turn at L and L Motor goes towards Vernal that was a Shell Service Station owned by the Ashton's. Across Highway 40 to the north was a creamery owned by Calder Brothers from over in Vernal. They had ice cream, they bought and sold cream, and milk. This creamery was on the southwest corner of that block. What happen there then, Hi-land bought the area after the creamery was torn down and they built a great big new creamery. They bought all kinds of cream. They made cheese and butter. It was a big goin' concern. Most of the farmers started milkin' lots more cows. The milk was hauled in on flat bed trucks in ten gallon cream cans every morning and dumped into those vats. They would sell A Grade milk out of that. The truck would come in enclosed from Salt Lake. They must have come every day to take the amount of milk. They would haul the A Grade to Salt Lake and the C Grade, I guess they just sold it back to farmers. Oh, they made butter and good cheese. They made curds. While we were runnin' that station, it was right next to the creamery, we would go over there and get the curds and flirt with the girls. We would have a big time. Right next to the east of Hi-Land Dairy is where Levere and I's first business was, before you go over the canal. You go back up to the corner to the west of Calder's creamery and there was another little Mutual Creamery there that my dad finally ended up owning that. Now I own most of that block. There was houses and that little creamery and on the west side of the block there was houses. Roosevelt's jail was on the northeast end of that block. When I was trying to purchase the whole block, they had built a new jail up in the old hospital basement. I traded them another block of land and paid the difference so I could get the whole block. I'll go south by explaining where we are at now. Across the was called Labrum and Adams. That is the place I have owned since 1955. My brother, Morrill, and my brother in law was named Dick Adams. He married my oldest sister. Next to him is Crumbo's place. There used to be an old two-story log house there where the Arby's is. My nephew owns the Arby's that is there now. He is my brother next to me, his child. Next to Crumbo to the south was called Campbell's Tourist Cabins where the bowling alley parking is. Where the bowling alley is was a big two-story home. Everybody had [gas] pumps in front, no matter what kind of business it was. There was a little station there but it was closed down at this time. The [pump was still there with the] filler pipe, well, you could screw the top off from it. A good friend of mine, Junior Moysh, lived down in a house next to L and L. He dropped a firecracker down that filler pipe and it blew up. It blew him clear across the street into Highway 40 and just burned him something terrible all down the front of him. He lived. My youngest daughter married his son. He died about ten years ago. The guy that owned the tourist park was a dentist. We called him Mighty. His name was Doc Campbell. He also owned Victory Park Dance Hall, Swimming Pool and Cabins.

Ellen: So you know some history about Victory Park?

Lynn: Yes, I danced there many times. Across the street to the south of Dr. Campbell's was called the Larsen Building. I actually think, it is still there, it is the oldest building in Roosevelt. It was a motel. Its had lots of different little business' inside of it. There have been barber shops, beauty shops, and hotels. My wife and mother owned it as a hotel and Miriam worked in it. South of that at one time, Sather's had his jewelry store. When I was in high school that is where Bob Sather had the jewelry store. South of that was the Uintah Power and Light Company.

Ellen: That was before Moon Lake Electric?

Lynn: Moon Lake bought that out illegally. By federal law they were not supposed to buy any cities light power if they were over a certain population. They by-stepped it some way. I was city councilman. I was the only one that fought it. It was good for us to have but it was against the law. I am one that maintains, the law is the same whether you are black, white, Indian or Mexican the law is the same and so I fought it. By doing that I lost all of Uintah Power and Lights business and I had it all, that hurt. Just because I was city councilman. I didn't tell you I was city councilman, did I?

Ellen: No, you didn't.

Lynn: Back in the early 1970's and I also was a fireman for Roosevelt before that. I was a volunteer fireman. I was firemen for about ten years. When I become councilman, I had to give up being a city fireman. It was for a purpose. When you're a councilman, you are insured by the city and if you're a firemen, the same. It behooves everybody to be one or the other. I liked being a fireman. I liked being a city councilman, but the trouble with that is no matter what opinion you make it's wrong for somebody. They hold you personally responsible for it. When I was councilman, I did see the sidewalks put in and the streets starting to be oiled, as fast as we could get money. I did this along with other guys help. You don't do any of this alone. The next building south of the power and light was a little Five and Ten Cent Store. Before he was in there, along way back, Les Mullins had a furniture store and before Les it was the Safeway Store. When I went in the Army in 1943 I had worked in that Safeway for two years as a clerk, stocker, bagger, inventory man. We were the jack of alls and specialty of nothing. I got paid fifty cents an hour and they paid me in cash, can you imagine that. South of that, was the telephone office. We used to always have operators there, oh, up till about thirty years ago. I was born and raised here in Ballard and at one time we had the only phone in Ballard because we lived right on Highway 40. The line went right by our house. I wore my old white horse out taken messages to the neighbors. My dad wouldn't let me charge nobody. I was raised in that house that I was telling you about, my mother raised nine of us and never once had water in the house. We went to the well, which was about 500 to a 1000 yards away. We would bring two ten gallon water cans. We would have to go every day. Sometimes it would last two days. I have told people this and it's almost the truth, that I'm the ninth and so I was the ninth to get bathed in the big tub. For savin' water, my mother took the bath water and washed the floors on her hands and knees. When I went I the Army, we still had an outdoor privy back in 1943. The next business was Dillman's Attorney office, Earl Dillman. Next came the Utopia Theater, which was the only theater in town until I was quite old. I must have been fifteen or sixteen.

Ellen: How often did you get to go to the movies?

Lynn: Every time we could sneak in we could go. It only cost a dime. They had these continued ones like Buck Rogers, Ken Maynard and all them matinees on Saturday afternoon. They would be out in time for us to go home and milk the cows. North of that was Huish Drug Stores. Them are the most honest people that were ever in business in Roosevelt. They done more for the country to help. Mr. Huish was a veterinarian. He could tell you what to give your cows. He would tell you what to take when the doctors wasn't here. Everybody liked them. One time, I

traded for his car. He had turned it into my brother's right after the war. He was one of their best customers. He traded this four door Ford in so they let me buy it. The first time I went to Salt Lake, I was in a blizzard. At Silver Creek Junction, I tipped it over on its side. We tipped it back up and the motor wouldn't start. It was froze up. So I got a wrecker to pull it to the top of the hill and I'll be damned, it started then. I drove it out to Salt Lake to the number two airport. I had bought an airplane in Phoenix and had it there. I left it idling to keep Miriam while she was sittin' in it. It froze up again. This time I had to take it to Bennett's [Rick Warner Ford]. They had to put a new rebuilt block in it. It had antifreeze in it so long, it had eaten through the heads and antifreeze went down on the pistons and bound up the pistons. The reason I bring this up is tell you how honest Mr. Huish was. He almost insisted that he pay for that motor. I had bought it and a returned soldier. I let him pay for half. These Huish's, Bob and Reva, they had the best malted milk in town, really thick ones with nuts in them. Us kids always got them there. South of that, in the old days, was the Roosevelt Hotel. It later became Marion Martinsen's. That is Marion's store is. Next to that is Harmston's Barber Shop. Ted Harmston was the barber in there as long as I can remember. Then the stairs go up overhead to apartments next to that cause Ted owned the apartments. South of that was Sather's store. Sather's was up on the other end of that block to start with. Right after the war, it was the Texaco Service Station, it was kind of a three cornered one. Carma Dee Harmston and her husband and Gordon made, well that is where the Frontier Grill started. Then later on, Carma bought her husband out. They got a divorce. She bought it out and was running it herself, I believe. Then they moved down to where the Frontier Café was for a long time over in the middle of there behind the station instead of where it is now. She made a big café there. I guy named Lunt built that big building where Bob's at. No, there is a building between Bob [Sather] and Ted Harmston. Lunt built that and had a drug store. He married Naomi Dillman, Earl's sister. Now he is a doctor down in Cedar City, Utah. Bob finally bought the whole building finally and ended up with his jewelry shop in the south end of it, but there used to be a Texaco Service Station along there. I tell you, how they are now days about service stations and catching all gas. At one time, there was three service stations, the Texaco, my brother's across the street, and one just by Wilkins. They had a sump over there that the water would sit in before it would go into the sewer, when you are washin' the floor and that so the mud would not go down. That gas was so thick under the ground that they had gas fumes in that sump over there. You light a match, you could get a flame. Now days you would be in so much trouble. If the EPA would come and hire a guy like me or even older. We could take them up and down streets and show you at least five to ten tanks that has never been cleaned up. It cost me \$40,000 to get mine approved. The next place is across the street and for years and years, that was 1932, it was the Chevrolet dealership. Bill Graham run it. Then my brother, Ed took it over and he also had Chevrolet and a Conoco Service Station and a little garage. Then he and Chevrolet got in a rowel. He told them to take the agency and do what they best could with it. He took over Pontiac. Somebody else got Chevrolet. South of Ed's there was a clothing store for little kids. Shirley Murdock had it at one time. That whole fourth or maybe half of that block caught fire back in late 1960's, I believe. It burned down that whole block, clear down to Hansen's Hotel. The cause of that fire was a man that was doing recapping of tires. A lot of that glue is nothin but alcohol, really flammable. Hansen's had a hotel there and then Phillips built a cabin spot, Phillip's Cabins. On down to the far south end of that lot where Millie had her Indian store, at one time that was called the Con Wagon. They sold all kind of farm machinery.

Ellen: Hollis Hullinger talked about the Consolidated Wagon and Machinery. Is this the same store?

Lynn: That is the same one. It was Con Wagon. Maybe it was consolidated. What was in there was new saddles, new harnesses, barrels of nails, all kinds, horseshoes, almost anything that farmers needed. That takes us to the end of that block. Ol' Presley Timothy owned a lumber yard right there. He had a building about fifty to seventy-five feet on south where his building for the lumber yard was. This is where Sullivan's furniture store was. That was all part of his lumber yard. I think there was houses clear down to Murray's got their cars on that west side of the street. Across the street there used to be a service station. There was a service station on every corner. In fact, they thought one time, seriously, of cuttin' the blocks in two so they would have more corners for service stations.

Ellen: That is like over to Vernal, there is a fast food restaurant every corner. Now there is not enough restaurants.

Lynn: They have two to our one. That little one serves breakfast right in the middle and the north end of the street, right across from them cabins. It is a good place to have breakfast. It used to be that all the Vernal people would stop at the Grill for their breakfast. It has changed in the last five years. He can't keep help overnight. Where were we? Next to the Con Wagon was two or three little log houses. A lady called Robert's had five or six boys. They was all in the army at the same time, World War II. I think every one of them come home. One of em' was younger than me, one was my age, one was two years older than me. Then there was three older than that. One would be ninety now. He died a few years back. There was one over in Vernal, Dave Roberts. Did you ever meet him?

Ellen: Yes. He was married to Margaret Oaks.

Lynn: Next to the Roberts house was Woagus Garage. They were strict Catholics. He had one of these big ol' limousines that the window rolled up between the chauffeur and the passengers. He would get them all decked out, driven to the Catholic Church, smokin' a big black cigar. His name was Steve Woagus. He had the best philosophy about anything.

You didn't want to go there in the afternoon late and have something done. He said he worked all day and he had to make a day's wages so if he only had the one customer he had to make so much [so he would make it off the last customer of the day]. That was his sayin'. He was a precise guy. He had his own lathe, it ran off a motor. It was a big lathe. It was where the Uinta Basin Standard is, that is where this garage was. Farther south of that, in the old days, they was just houses, where LCL station is.

Ellen: Our time is about gone. Before we finish can you tell me about the Victory Park?

Lynn: Doc Campbell must a had a dream and he was a dentist. I don't know before he became a dentist how rich his family was or anything. He had an office right close to the station where that explosion happened. He owned clear to Crumbo's. He had one kid, a little boy. I think I was a little older than him. He was going across to Steve's Café and a car hit him and killed him. That

was there only child. He had the dream over there at Victory Park of a swimming resort and kind of a park and a dance hall. He built Victory Park. There were some of the best dances in the Uinta Basin held there when I went in the Army. To the south of the Victory Park he had a swimming pool. It was a cement pool. He would get the water from up on top of the thing and bring it in. It was irrigating water, really.

I think the state must have more or less shut it down. He built that when I was real little. I can't remember of ever swimming in it. I went over and seen it several times. When we would be going by and stop and look at it. He had dressing rooms. He had showers and benches. It was really first class.

Ellen: Did they serve dinner there?

Lynn: No.

Ellen: I have seen advertisements in the old Vernal Express for dances held at Victory Park. Tex Ross and the Rhythm Wranglers played at The Barn.

Lynn: Well, that is your time. They built The Barn, I think. Campbell's had a little house north of the Victory Park and on the west end of it. There is still a house there I think, a little log house. It's been improved. It was a live band. Two of the musicians came from Price every Saturday. Rudy Krissman, Elaine Krissman, a school teacher down here at Union. Her husband and Rose Marie Cook, Pearl Labrum's sister, they both come from Price. Johnny played the trumpet. He was real good. He won back at the Chicago World's Fair, some kind of certificate for playing the trumpet. Rudy played the accordion. It was only open one night a week, to my recollection, unless there was the 4th of July or something like that. In the summertime, we had the Ravolla Dance Hall. It was south of Ioka. That was fun. When it would rain, we would roll our pants up and keep dancin'. We might have had a drink or two. Let me tell you some more about Victory Park. Down where you turn off from Highway 40, down almost not to the ditch, but back a ways you get off that hill and at the foot of it and turn into Victory Park, that's how we used to get in and go out. There used to be a gas pump station there. It had a little store where farmers could come and buy the necessary type things, not a big shopping. Bread, milk and that type of things. I don't remember who ran that little store. Something that is quite interesting about the Victory Park area as you are going up the road over there. Let me tell you about that. My wife's step-dad was workin' for W.W. Clyde and he made the cut through that hill. They called it the CUT. When that road was that way, a Model-T Ford would have to back up that. They had power enough but they had to back up it. Guess why?

Ellen: I have no idea!

Lynn: All cars have a fuel pump on em'. Model T's didn't. They had gravity fed gasoline. The fuel tank was up above the engine. Right in front of the windshield was a cap. For them to get gas, it had to be backwards so the gas would run in the motor. I rode up that hill with my dad that way. I was quite young but I can remember it. My step-daddy-in-law was the superintendent that made that cut through there. The steam shovel was so heavy. They walked it from Heber City out here. It was Miriam's step-brother that drove it. When he come to the Duchesne River bridge, he

had to go through the river. When he come to the Ft. Duchesne, he had to go through the river. I think it was those two rivers but I know he had to walk it through two rivers. Imagine the time and they didn't have these big trucks and trailers that they have. Now, I have lived that long. The old road come out before you come into Victory Park. It crossed the ditch to where it is now. The bridge is newer now, part of it, but that is where it crossed.

Small talk happened and the name of Don Davis came to light. A recollection of Lynn's about his friend, Don goes like this.

There was one time he [Don Davis] got his leg in a bind, he and Bert Hatch. A pipe had rolled down and got his leg in a bind he told me. He says, "Bert, you got me in a bind. Bert, you got me in a hell of a bind!!" I can just hear him say that. His brother Vic and I went in the Army together.

Ellen: We are almost done. Would you like to tell your posterity anything in life?

Lynn: Well, I've always thought the greatest thing a man could have is a family like mine. I've got near fifty great-grandkids and seventeen grandchildren. I've got four children, two boys and two girls. I got one son-in-law and he is like a son. I don't have any drunkards or any dopers. My oldest boy is a mission president in Luzon, in the Philippine Islands. He is president of the mission. He is over there savin' em' where I was killin' em'. My other young son is runnin' the business with the help of his brother-in-law. They both own it. At one time all of my kids owned it all.